THE THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN

Number Ten January, 1945

WE TRY AN EXPERIMENT

With the October bulletin we enclosed a one-page offset reproduction as an experiment. So many liked the idea that with this issue we are experimenting still further with an entire offset format. At wartime prices it would be a little rough on our budget for a steady diet. But we can at least afford a little spree now and then, even if we do have to resort to the mimeograph in between times. At any rate, when the Houghton Mifflin Company offered us the opportunity of reprinting the Gleason map of the Thoreau Country we thought it worthwhile to try an offset bulletin for once at least. Do let us know how you like it, for if the demand is sufficient and our society continues to grow at the rate it has in recent months, it is entirely within the realm of possibility that we could adopt this format permanently

THE WALDEN CENTENNIAL

With the new year we usher in the most important Thoreau anniversary since the centennial of his birth in 1917. It was in the early spring of 1845 that the young Henry started out for Walden Pond with an axe over his shoulder and a dream in his heart--a dream that became one of the most famous experiments in the annals of American literature--his two year adventure in living at Walden Pond. We Thoreauans cannot let this event go uncelebrated.

The year will start off well with an address by our society's president, Dr. Adams, at far-famed Cooper Union Forum in New York City on Friday evening, January Fifth on "Thoreau at Walden, 1845-47." Let us try to keep up the pace. Urge your librarian to put on a Thoreau exhibition sometime during the year. Write an essay for your favorite newspaper or magazine. Get a Thoreau talk on your club program. And by all means let us know what you accomplish.

Incidentally, our official society celebration will come in Concord in July if all goes well. But more about that in a later number.

THE S. S. HENRY D. THOREAU

Some time ago we mentioned rumors of a liberty ship named after Thoreau. With the help of the Maritime Commission we finally tracked the rumor down to the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation in Portland, Oregon and were rewarded with this information:

> The S. S. "Henry D. Thoreau," Hull #197 (was) launched at the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation April 16, 1942. The ship was christened by Mrs. John G. Benson.
>
> Following is a brief history of the ship from keel laying to delivery. Military censorship prohibits release of any information pertaining to the movements of the ship after it has been turned over to her operators: Keel laid, 2/23/42; On the ways, 52 days; Date launched, 4/16/42; No. Days Launching to Delivery, 27; Sea Trial Date, 5/10/42; Actual Delivery Date, 5/13/42; No. Days Keel Laying to Delivery, 79.

We have seen a photograph of the S. S. Henry D. Thoreau and can report that it looks to be a sturdy soul in the Thoreau tradition, but we must also report that to our un-maritime eye it decidedly lacks his individualism.

* * * *

"I have not succeeded if I have an antagonist who fails. It must be humanity's success." --HDT
--Journal, March 22, 1842

HARRY LEE: A TRIBUTE

(A gem in any library is the beautiful little biography in poetry of Thoreau, MORE DAY TO DAWN, by Harry Lee, which was reviewed in our first bulletin. Harry Lee's friendship was treasured by all of us privileged to know him. Sadly, he died two years ago in the prime of his life. We print here a brief tribute written by one of his closest personal friends.)

Mr. Lee was born in Ohio and while still a comparatively young man brought his family to the East in search of the "good life." It is characteristic of his affinity for the New England school of writers that he visited that part of the world even before he settled down to the more practical considerations of where he was to secure a livelihood. Then came World War I and his association with the American Red Cross which he served with distinction both in France and our own country. During many of the dark experiences which he encountered in his contacts with the men, particularly in France, WALDEN (which he carried with him almost constantly) brought strength and spiritual solace both to those whom he served and to himself. This was also true of the days when he assisted the men toward a new and often sadly-altered world in the Rehabilitation Hospitals. At the close of this characteristically humane chapter Harry's zeal for serving his fellow man found expression in "Bonnie Lodge" a settlement house which he opened and ran for the benefit of the human derelicts roaming the streets of New York City. This Utopian enterprise, which betrayed the earmarks of a Thoreauvian spirit, had to be eventually abandoned for lack of physical resources. But this spirit continued to flower in Harry Lee's genius, both in written word and deed, for guiding his fellow man in the pilgrimage toward "truth and beauty," to the very end of his earthly days. --Charles A. Kelly

GLEASON'S MAP OF CONCORD

Ever since the first publishing venture of the Thoreau Society there has been a steadily increasing demand for a good map of the Thoreau country. We are happy at last to be able to fulfill those requests. Houghton Mifflin Company of Boston and New York have graciously given us copyright permission to reprint Herbert W. Gleason's "Map of Concord, Mass. Showing Localities mentioned by Thoreau in his Journals," first printed in the final volume of Thoreau's Journals published by Houghton Mifflin in 1906.

Mr. Gleason spent years in the study of Thoreau's Journals and the Concord locale before making this map. He includes a long note on the sources of his material on Page 347 of the final volume of the Journals. We quote from it, in part:

> The course of the Concord River is drawn from an elaborate manuscript plan of Thoreau's. . . The outlines of Walden and White Ponds have also been taken from Thoreau's original surveys. . .
>
> All names of places are those used by Thoreau, no attention being given to other names perhaps more current either in his own time or at present. Only such names of residents are given as are mentioned in the Journal. . .
>
> A few old wood roads, pasture lanes, etc. (Thoreau's preferred highways), are indicated, as to their general direction, by dotted lines.

So carefully did Mr. Gleason perform his work that now in reprinting it nearly forty years later we find no additions or corrections to make.

MAP OF
CONCORD, MASS.
Showing Localities mentioned by
Thoreau in his Journals
Compiled by Herbert W. Gleason
1906
SCALE OF MILES
CARLISLE
BEDFORD
LINCOLN
SUDBURY
ACTON
Concord River
Assabet River
Sudbury River
Walden Pond
Fair Haven Bay
White Pond
Loring's Pond
Beaver Pond
Flint's or Sandy Pond
Damon's Mills
Powder Mills
NINE ACRE CORNER
Great Meadows
GREAT FIELDS
BEDFORD LEVELS
EASTERBROOK COUNTRY
Strawberry Hill
Annursnack Hill
Ponkawtasset Hill
Hubbard's Hill
Buttrick's Hill
Davis's Hill
Ball's Hill
Poplar Hill
Pine Hill
Smith's Hill
Brister's Hill
Fair Haven Hill
Bear Garden Hill
Emerson's Cliff
Lee's Cliff
Cedar Hill
Mt. Misery
Mt. Tabor
Thoreau's Birthplace
FITCHBURG RAILROAD
COPYRIGHT, 1907, BY HERBERT W. GLEASON

INDEX TO MAP OF CONCORD

Figures in parentheses correspond with figures on the map. A letter and figure combined indicate the space within which the locality may be found, this space being determined by the intersection of imaginary lines drawn from the corresponding letter and figure in the margin.

(1) Agricultural Fair Ground. F 7
Alcott, A. Bronson. F 8
(2) Almshouse. G 7
Andromeda, or Cassandra, Ponds. J 7
Annursnack Hill. D 3
(3) Arethusa Meadow. H 6
(4) Assabet Bath. E 5
Assabet River, or North Branch. E 5
(5) Assabet Spring. E 5
Assabet Stone Bridge. (See One-Arch Bridge.)
Austin, L. H. K 10
Back Road. G 6
Baker, Jacob. J 8
Baker, James. J 8
Baker Bridge. J 8
Baker Farm. K 7
Ball's Hill. D 9
Bare Hill. (See Pine Hill.)
Barrett, G. M. E 4
Barrett, Nathan. D 7
Barrett, Prescott. E 5
(6) Barrett, Sam. E 5
(7) Barrett's Bar. D 8
Barrett's Pond. D 5
(8) Barrett's Saw and Grist Mills. E 5
(9) Bartlett, Dr. F 7
Bateman's Pond. C 6
Battle-Ground. (See Old North Bridge.)
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Bear Hill. J 9
Beaver Pond. L 11
Beck Stow's Swamp. E 9
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Bedford Road (new). E 8
Bedford Road (old). E 9
Bidens Brook. (See Pole Brook.)
(10) Bigelow, F. E. F 7
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(11) Blood's Pasture. B 8
(12) Boaz's Meadow. C 6
(13) Boiling Spring. H 6
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Boulder Field. C 7
Bound Rock. L 5
Brigham, J. G. K 6
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(14) Brister's Spring. G 8
(15) Britton's Camp. H 9
(16) Britton's Hollow. G 9
(17) Brooks, A. F 7
Brooks, Geo. D 4
Brown, J. P. G 5
(18) Brown's (J. P.) Pond-Hole, or Cold Pool. H 4
Brown, Simon. E 6
Brown, Wm. B 5
Bull, E. W. F 8
Button-bush Pond. (See Clematis Pond.)
Buttrick, Abner. D 8
Buttrick, Stedman. D 7
Buttrick's Hill. C 8
Calla Swamp. B 6
(19) Callitriche Pool. G 8
Cambridge Turnpike. G 8
Canoe Birch Road. K 3
(20) Cardinal Shore. H 6
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Carlisle Reach. B 9
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Cedar Hill. J 10
Cedar Swamp, White. D 4
(21) Channing, W. E. F 6
(22) Cheney, J. M. F 6
(23) Clamshell Bank or Hill. G 5
(24) Clamshell, or Sunset, Reach. G 5
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Clark, D. D 6
Clark, Joseph. D 6
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(25) Clematis, Button-bush, or Nightshade, Pond. K 7
(26) Cliffs. J 7
(27) Clintonia Swamp. G 8
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(28) Columbine Cliff. J 6
(29) Common. F 7
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(30) Conant House, Site of Old. J 6
Conantum. J 6
Copan. D 9
Corner Bridge. (See Lee's Bridge.)
Corner Road. H 6
(31) Corner Spring. H 5
(32) County House. F 7
(33) Court-House. F 7
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Curly-Pate Hill. B 6
(34) Cyanean Meadow. G 5
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Dakin, Dea. L. K 3
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Damon's Mills. G 3
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(35) Dennis's Lupine Hill or Promontory. G 5
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Derby's Bridge. F 4
(36) Diving-Ash. D 8
Dodge's, or Dakin's, Brook. D 6
(37) Dodd, J. M. F 6
(38) Dove Rock. E 6
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(39) Dugan Desert. H 4
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(40) Easterbrook House, Site of. C 6
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(41) Egg Rock. E 6
(42) Elfin Burial-Ground. G 4
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(43) Everett, Geo. G 9
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Fair Haven Pond or Bay. J 7
(44) Fair Haven Pond Island (at high water). J 7
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Farmer's Cliff. C 6
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(45) Farrar's Blacksmith Shop. G 6
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Flint's, or North, Bridge. E 7
Flint's, or Sandy, Pond. J 10
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(46) French's Rock. E 7
(47) Frost, B. F 6
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(48) Garrison, J. F 7
(49) Gentian Lane. E 7
(50) Goodwin, John. G 6
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(51) Gourgas, F. R. F 7
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(52) Harrington's Spring. G 3
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Hayward,[1] J. E 4
Hayward,[1] R. G 2
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(53) Heywood, A. B. F 7
(54) Heywood, Geo. F 7
(55) Heywood's Brook. J 7
(56) Heywood's Meadow. J 7
(57) Heywood's Peak. H 8
(58) Heywood's Wood-lot. H 8
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(59) Hoar, E. Rockwood. F 6
(60) Hoar, Samuel. F 7
Hodgman, J. B 8
(61) "Hogepen-Walke." D 4
(62) Holbrook, J. F 7
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(63) Holden, or Echo, Wood. H 6
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(64) Hollowell Place. H 5
(65) Holt, the. D 8
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[1] This name is spelled "Heywood" by Thoreau.

(66) Hosmer, Edmund (before 1853). G 9
Hosmer, Edmund (after 1853). E 6
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(67) Hubbard, Ebby. F 7
(68) Hubbard's Bath. G 6
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(69) Hubbard's Grove. G 5
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Hunt, Wm. D 7
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(70) Hunt's Pasture. C 7
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(71) Indian Field. E 6
(72) Inn kept by Thoreau's Aunts. F 7
(73) Island, the (at high water). F 6
(74) Jail. F 7
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(75) Jones, Mrs. D 7
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(76) Keyes, J. S. F 7
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(77) Laurel Glen. H 7
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(78) Ledum Swamp. H 4
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(80) Lime Quarry. C 6
(81) Linnæa Hills. H 4
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(82) Little Truro. G 5
(83) Lonely Graveyard. G 6
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(84) Mantatuket Point or Rock. E 6
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(85) Merrick's Pasture. F 6
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Miles, J. L 5
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(86) Miles's Mill, Warren. H 4
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(87) Mill-dam. F 7
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(88) Minott, Abel. K 7
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(89) Money-Diggers' Shore. G 5
(90) Monroe, Francis. F 6
(91) Monroe, Wm. F 6
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(93) Orchis Swamp. J 7
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(95) Painted-Cup Meadow. E 4
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Pine Hill (in Lincoln), or Bare Hill. J 9
(96) Pinxter Swamp. E 6
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Poplar Hill. E 7
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(97) Potter's Field. H 6
(98) Potter's Swamp Meadow. H 6
(99) Pout's Nest, or Wyman Meadow. H 8
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(100) Prescott, G. L. E 7
(101) Prichard, M. F 7
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(104) Rice, Reuben. F 7
(105) Ripley, Mrs. ("Old Manse"). E 7
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(107) Second Division Spring. H 2
(108) Seven-Star Lane. J 5
(109) Shattuck, D. F 6
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(110) Shrub Oak Plain. J 7
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(111) Smith, J. M. F 6
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(112) Squaw Harbor. D 9
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(114) Stow, Cyrus. F 7
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(116) Tarbell's Spring. G 4
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(117) Thoreau's Boat-Landing. F 6
(118) Thoreau's Grave. F 7
Thoreau's Hut, Site of. H 7
(119) Thoreau's Home in the Village. F 6
(120) Thoreau's "Texas" House. F 6
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(121) Town Hall F 7
(122) Trillium Woods. H 7
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(123) Unitarian (First) Church. F 7
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Walden Road. G 7
(124) Walden Woods. H 7
(125) Warner Pail Factory. F 3
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(126) Well Meadow, or Spanish, Brook. J 7
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Wheeler, F. A. J 5
Wheeler, Samuel G. F 5
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(127) Wheeler's Swamp. F 6
White Pond. J 4
Willis, J. G 2
(128) Willow Bay, or Lily Bay. G 5
(129) Willow Island. E 6
Winn, P. E 6
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(130) Witherell Vale or Glade. G 5
Wood, Elijah. F 5
Wood, Jas. C 5
(131) Wood's, or South, Bridge. F 6
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(132) Wood Thrush Path. H 10
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Wyman Meadow. (See Pout's Nest.)
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[2] This name was also given to a bay on the river in Sudbury.
[3] This is the "Saw Mill Brook" most frequently mentioned by Thoreau.

DO YOU WANT A SET OF THOREAU'S JOURNALS?

"I remember well that when I endeavoured to enlist Judge Hoar, the leading citizen of Concord, in an effort to persuade Miss Thoreau to allow her brother's journals to be printed, he heard me partly through, and then quickly said, 'But you have left unsettled the preliminary question, Why should any one care to have Thoreau's journals put in print?'" --Thomas Wentworth Higginson --Cheerful Yesterdays

It seems hard to believe now that anyone ever questioned the advisibility of putting Thoreau's journals into print. Yet it was more than forty years after his death before they were published in a state at all approaching entirety. Houghton Mifflin Company brought them forth in 1906 as fourteen of the twenty-volume Walden and Manuscript Editions of his works. Their venture was soon justified for both editions were immediately over-subscribed. They have now both been long out of print and are virtually unobtainable. Yet the demand for them is great. Trying to find a solution to the situation, we wrote to Houghton Mifflin Company and they replied, in part:

> Yes, we have seriously considered reprinting Thoreau's Complete Journals . . . but nothing can be done until after the war on account of the shortage of paper.
>
> I am just wondering if there is any way for you to sound out as to how many members of your Society will subscribe to the Journals, if we were to reprint them? . . . It would be interesting to see just what interest might be aroused to encourage us to reprint. Roughly I would say we could plan the Complete Journals, 14 volumes in 7 at about $35. although this is a guess. In its present form the Journals is in 14 volumes of about 500 pages each. By printing on thin paper and binding two volumes in one we might make a 7 volume set if this seems desirable.

We think there is sufficient demand to justify reprinting the Journals. If you or any of your friends or your librarians are interested, will you please let us know so that we may pass the word along to Houghton Mifflin? Remember, these are neither orders nor commitments to buy. They are merely to encourage the publishers to bring forth a new edition.

A THOREAU MISCELLANY

Brown University has been saluting Thoreau in proper style. For the month of November the library featured an exhibition of Thoreauana from the great collection of Mr. Albert Lownes. And on the 13th of that month, Prof. Randall Stewart lectured to the Friends of the Library on Thoreau. . . The Bull's Head Bookshop in Chapel Hill, N.C. conducted a series of literary teas this fall with Dr. Adams reading from Lee's MORE DAY TO DAWN. . .The Morgan Library celebrated the return of its precious manuscripts from wartime hiding with an exhibition devoted to American authors. Included were some of the manuscripts of Thoreau's journals and letters. . . Delos Avery, in his column "Bookman's Holiday," (CHICAGO SUNDAY TRIBUNE, Oct. 22, 1944) pronounces WALDEN a good book to read at bedtime. But just like us, he couldn't put it down and read it through till dawn.

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